



CONNECTED

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE CITY OF MILPITAS

December 2023 Issue

City of Milpitas Celebrates the Opening of the Delano Manongs Park

On October 14, the City of Milpitas held a ribbon-cutting event and fiesta to commemorate the opening of Delano Manongs Park, highlighting the important contributions of Filipinos in America's history. The Delano Manongs represent a courageous group of Filipino farmworkers who revolutionized the working conditions and wages of American laborers. The event was attended by members of the Milpitas community, Milpitas City Council, Senator Aisha Wahab, Assemblymember Alex Lee, members of the Milpitas Unified School District, Milpitas Advisory Commissions, media partners and City staff.

The Delano Manongs Park is located on McCandless Drive directly north of Mabel Mattos Elementary School. It includes joint-use park areas for the City and the elementary school, sports field, picnic areas, all-inclusive play structures, dog park, walking trails, community garden, and restrooms. The Park was designed to foster a sense of community and enhance the lives and well-being of Milpitas residents for many years to come.

The new park was a collaborative project between the City of Milpitas and the Milpitas Unified School District and was funded in part by a grant from the Santa Clara County All-Inclusive Playground Grant Program. The Delano Manongs Park will eventually have a direct connection to nearby neighborhoods via a new pedestrian bridge over the Penitencia East Channel and will include a potable water well required to meet the increase in water demands due to growth in the area surrounding the New Milpitas Transit Center.



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LETTER FROM THE CITY MANAGER



The holidays remind us of the common values that bind us together—compassion, kindness, and the joy of giving. It is a time for us to celebrate our community and reflect on our good fortune and the blessings of the past year.

As we close out this year, I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to our community members, local businesses, and other stakeholders who continue to make Milpitas such a wonderful place to live, work, and play. Our City's strength lies in the relationships we cultivate and the connections we build, nurture, and sustain.

In today's ever-changing world, the importance of connections and unity cannot be overstated. I want to express my sincere appreciation for the memorable visit by delegates from our sister city, Dagupan. Their journey from the Philippines to California is a testament to the strength of our partnership and shared values. Together, we will continue to promote cultural exchange through educational discussions, artistic collaborations, economic partnerships, and sharing of best practices in local governance.

Reflecting on our achievements, I am also inspired by the innovative spirit that defines our City. Under our City Council's leadership, a four-acre park located in the Milpitas Metro Specific Plan area has been named Delano Manongs Park in memory of a courageous group of Filipino farmworkers who revolutionized the working conditions and wages of American laborers. The Park includes picnic areas, a sports field, walking trails, community garden, all-inclusive playground, dog park, restrooms, and joint-use areas with the adjacent Mabel Mattos Elementary School. A commemorative plaque in the park memorializes the Milpitas community's gratitude, respect, and appreciation for the Delano Manongs' enduring impact in our community and the country.

In Milpitas, the manufacturing sector fuels our local economy, provides employment opportunities, fosters technological advancements, and contributes significantly to our City's growth. In collaboration with the Milpitas Unified School District, KLA Corporation and Flex LTD, the City hosted 100 people, including 60 Milpitas high school students, school district officials, teachers, and community members during Milpitas' seventh annual Manufacturing Day event in mid-October. The purpose of the event is to inform and educate high school students in Milpitas about local technology and advanced manufacturing industries and introduce employers to members of Milpitas' future labor force.

Last month, the City launched SolarAPP+ an automated application for permitting new residential rooftop solar and storage systems. SolarAPP+ will lower costs and expedite solar installations, encouraging property owners to invest in generating renewable and sustainable energy. As we work to improve and enhance community resilience, facilitating solar installations through efficient permitting processes strategically aligns with our commitment to environmental sustainability.

In the spirit of the holiday season, I am excited to share that Milpitas SMART (Simple Mobile Access to Reliable Transit) will now provide rides from 6am until 9pm on weekdays, and from 7am until 9pm on Saturdays. As a thank you for your support, rides will be FREE all holiday season (up to January 6, 2024). So, book your ride using the Milpitas SMART app, online at book.smart.rideco.com, or by calling (408) 330-3302.

City staff strives diligently to identify and implement measures that bolster public safety and enhance emergency response capabilities. We are currently exploring the possibility of introducing a Public Safety General Obligation (GO) bond measure aimed at furthering our commitment to the security and protection of our residents. To better understand the needs and priorities of our community regarding potential projects and investments funded by a GO bond, we are launching a survey this month. To learn more, visit: <https://milpitas.gov>.

As your City Manager, I am dedicated to fostering an inclusive and engaged community where every voice matters. I invite you to become an active participant in shaping the future of Milpitas by serving in one of our City Commissions. If you are eager to make a positive difference in the community, I encourage you to visit www.milpitas.gov/1158/Commission-Vacancies-Applications to learn more about the available openings, the application process, and the requirements for each commission.

On behalf of the City Council and City staff, I wish you a joyful and peaceful holiday season. May this time be filled with love, happiness, and good health for you and your families. In observance of the upcoming holidays, Milpitas City Hall and other facilities will be closed from Monday, December 25, through Monday, January 1. During this period, essential services such as emergency response, public safety, and critical utilities will continue to operate without interruption.

Happy Holidays!

The City Council meets the first, and third Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 455 E. Calaveras Blvd.

Meetings are webcast online at <https://bit.ly/3eOq1P8>

Sign up for the latest news at <https://www.milpitas.gov/e-notification/>

City Council

Mayor Carmen Montano
Vice Mayor Evelyn Chua
Councilmember Anthony Phan
Councilmember Hon Lien
Councilmember Garry Barbadillo, Esq.

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City Social Media
Follow the City and many of its departments on Facebook, X, YouTube, and NextDoor. We will keep you posted on everything from community events, new business openings, traffic updates, friendly tips, and other City-related information that may help you and your family.



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<https://nextdoor.com/agency-detail/ca/milpitas/city-of-milpitas/>



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<https://youtube.com/c/CityofMilpitas455/videos/>



www.linkedin.com/company/city-of-milpitas

Neighborhood News

Neighborhood Beautification Awards Deadline Extended

Due to popular demand, the Neighborhood Beautification Awards deadline has been extended to February 29, 2024. Nominate your candidates for the Neighborhood Beautification Awards and get a chance to be recognized for enhancing the charm of the City of Milpitas:

<https://airtable.com/appzbxZpIYcBNBGri/shritLb3PCorvROIU>.

The Community Advisory Commission (CAC) will review submissions at its meeting on Wednesday, March 6, 2024. Winners will be recognized at a future City Council meeting.

For more information, <https://www.milpitas.gov/1135/Neighborhood-Beautification-Awards>.



Milpitas at Your Service Employee Documentary

We are excited to share *Milpitas at Your Service* – an employee documentary series that offers a behind-the-scenes look at the various roles and responsibilities involved in keeping our City running smoothly. With each new episode, we hope to showcase unique stories of Milpitas public servants and highlight the City's culture, values, and goals. Our first video features Myvan Khuu-Seeman from our Public Works Department. Myvan's dedication to her work and commitment to making Milpitas a better place is truly inspiring. We invite you to check out her video on our YouTube channel at <https://milpitas.info/MyvanK>.

Whether you are a long-time Milpitas resident or new to the area, we hope that this series will give you a better understanding and appreciation of the hard work and dedication that makes Milpitas an amazing place to call home. Stay tuned for more episodes!



at your service

MYVAN K.

Senior Administrative Analyst
Public Works



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Milpitas SMART Updated Hours and FREE RIDES!



ENJOY THE SEASON WITH EXTENDED HOURS & FREE RIDES

6am to 9pm on weekdays
7am to 9pm on Saturdays

Book a ride with
SMART



FREE HOLIDAY RIDES*

DOWNLOAD THE APP TODAY

*Free rides available from
November 20 to January 6

This holiday season, Milpitas residents have something extra to celebrate with SMART's extended service hours and FREE rides. Over the last six months, SMART has been a reliable mode of transportation for more than 15,000 passengers, becoming an integral part of the community. SMART is now expanding its service hours to better accommodate residents' travel needs. **Weekday service is from 6 am to 9 pm**, providing a more extensive window for commuters to get around town conveniently. Newly added **Saturday hours are from 7 am to 9 pm**, ensuring residents have ample time to reach their destinations comfortably.

To express gratitude for the incredible support received from the community, SMART is offering free rides throughout the holiday season. This special offer runs until January 6, 2024, providing an excellent opportunity for everyone to experience the convenience and accessibility of SMART's services without any fare charges. Milpitas SMART has ADA accessible mini-vans with maximum wait times between 10 and 15 minutes.

DOWNLOAD the Milpitas SMART app and book your affordable, convenient connections anywhere in the City. You can also book by visiting <https://book.smart.rideco.com/login> or calling (408) 330-3302. Visit www.milpitas.gov/smart for more information.

SCAN ME

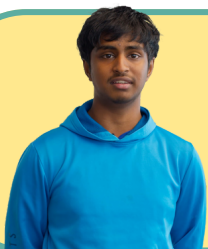
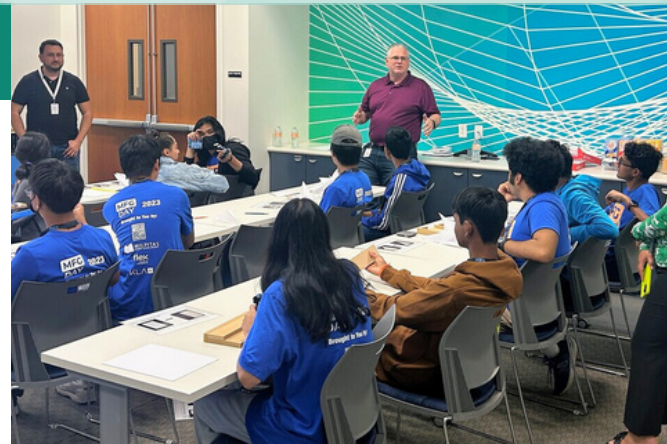


GOOD NEWS IN MILPITAS

Milpitas Celebrates 7th Annual Manufacturing Day

The City and Milpitas Unified School District (MUSD) hosted Milpitas' 7th Annual Manufacturing Day event on Friday, October 13 in partnership with KLA Corporation and Flex. This year's event was the first in-person event since 2019 due to COVID-19 pandemic restrictions resulting in three virtual events the last three years. The purpose of this event was to inform and educate high school students in Milpitas about the local technology and advanced manufacturing industries.

The event included presentations, panel discussions and Q&A sessions with KLA and Flex employees, as well as facility tours and demonstrations at these businesses. Activities also included students wearing bunny suits to observe employees working inside a clean room at KLA and producing paper airplanes in production line simulations at Flex. In addition to 60 high school students from Calaveras Hills High School, Milpitas High School and Milpitas Middle College, guests included MUSD Board President Chris Norwood and Superintendent Cheryl Jordan, as well as City representatives including Mayor Carmen Montano, Vice Mayor Evelyn Chua, Councilmember Hon Lien, City Manager Ned Thomas, and Deputy City Manager Matt Cano.



"When I got the opportunity to come to KLA semiconductor company and see how everything works, I considered it a really fun experience and enjoyable time here."

Kavinkumar Sainathan
Milpitas High School Student

"Going here today has shown me what the workplaces I'll be working at will be like. And it was very fun to be here."

Johnny Palacios
Milpitas High School Student



Accessory Dwelling Units
Adu@milpitas.gov

Animal Services
City of San Jose Animal Care Services
<https://bit.ly/3xRys55>
408-794-7297

Building Safety and Housing
BuildingPermitCenter@milpitas.gov
Code_Enforcement@milpitas.gov
Housing@milpitas.gov
408-586-3240

City Attorney
Cityatty@milpitas.gov

City Clerk
Cityclerk@milpitas.gov
408-586-3001

City Manager
Citymanagero@milpitas.gov
408-586-3051

Economic Development
Econdev@milpitas.gov
408-586-3058

Engineering
(flood zone, transportation)
Engineeringpublicmail@milpitas.gov
408-586-3300

Finance
Financecustomerservice@milpitas.gov
408-586-3100

Public Works Department
(parks, streets, trash, trees)
Milpitasworks@milpitas.gov

MyMilpitasApp
408-586-2600

Fire Department
Fireadmin@milpitas.gov
Station 1: 408-586-2800
Station 2: 408-586-2840
Station 3: 408-586-2850
Station 4: 408-586-2860

Fire Prevention Services
(fire permit submittals)
Firepreventionoffice@milpitas.gov
408-586-3365

Recreation and Community Services
Community_center@milpitas.gov

Rentals:
Recreationrentals@milpitas.gov

Community Center
408-586-3210

Barbara Lee Senior Center
408-586-3400

Sports Center
408-586-3225

Sort Your Food Scraps!



The City of Milpitas is proud to recycle organic material like food scraps and yard trimmings. In January 2022, the state passed Senate Bill (SB) 1383, requiring all organic material to be diverted away from landfills. Diverting organic material away from the landfill is important because organic waste decomposing in landfills is a large source of methane emissions (CH₄), a climate super pollutant much more potent than carbon dioxide (CO₂). By diverting organics from the landfill, we will help fight climate change by reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

In 2022, Milpitas diverted over 7,000 tons of organic material from the landfill! To continue to help fight climate change, let's continue to sort properly. Remember that only food and food-soiled paper should go into the food scraps bin and materials like grass, branches, leaves and weeds should go into the yard trimmings bin. When we properly sort, this material can be recycled and either turned into animal feed, nutrient rich compost or energy that helps powers our homes and the community. For more information on SB 1383, please visit www.milpitas.gov/619/Senate-Bill-1383.

Be In the Know About Street Sweeping!



Street sweepers are designed to pick up smaller debris, not large piles of leaves. If the vehicle comes into contact with a pile of leaves, it will spread the leaves all over the street. Instead of piling leaves in the street, place large amounts of leaves in your yard trimmings cart.

Another way to help is to move your car off the street between 7am-5pm on the street sweeper day so the street sweeper can collect all the leaves on the side of the road without missing the leaves that would be under your car. To learn more about the street sweeper schedule, view the Milpitas Sanitation street sweeping map: milpitas.info/sweeperroute



Applications for Milpitas Microenterprise Assistance Program Now Open

The application period for the City of the Milpitas Microenterprise Assistance Program (MEAP) will open January 16, 2024 for microenterprises within Milpitas. This program is designed to provide economic assistance to microenterprises within Milpitas. **FORWARD**, the trusted partner in program administration for local governments, has partnered with the City of Milpitas to administer the MEAP. The City of Milpitas has allocated \$50,000 of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds for MEAP to provide a financial cushion and help alleviate the economic challenges faced by microenterprises in Milpitas, offering them much-needed assistance to navigate their business' future during these difficult times.

To be eligible for the program, Milpitas microenterprises must:

- Operate within Milpitas city limits;
- Not exceed five (5) employees (including W2 employees and sole proprietors);
- Operate as a for-profit enterprise;
- Have a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) by March 31, 2024 to receive funding; and
- At least 51% of staff must be at or below 80% Area Median Income (AMI).

Milpitas microenterprises that meet eligibility requirements are encouraged to learn more. Full program details and website will be available by January. In the meantime, please contact the Office of Economic Development at econdev@milpitas.gov for details.





City of Milpitas
455 E. Calaveras Blvd.
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COMMUNITY UPDATE

Dagupan and Milpitas Renew Sister City Memorandum of Understanding



A delegation from the Philippines visited Milpitas in late November, making the trip to celebrate a very special occasion. The group from Dagupan City was in town to officially mark the continuation of their sister city relationship with Milpitas. On November 27, a memorandum of understanding (MOU) signing ceremony marked a significant milestone in the enduring relationship between the Milpitas and Dagupan communities. The agreement solidified both cities' commitment to collaboration and mutual growth. The event was attended by members of the Milpitas City Council, City staff, and special guests. Visiting dignitaries included Dagupan City Mayor Belen Fernandez, City Councilmembers Michael Fernandez, Dennis Canto, and Jeslito Seen, several members of Dagupan city's executive team, student council leaders as

well as local representatives from the Dagupan Association of Northern California.

The City hosted the delegation from Dagupan for two days. The dynamic itinerary included Milpitas City facility tours, information sessions led by the City's department directors, student interactions at Milpitas High School, and collaborative engagements aimed at deepening the bond between the two cities.

Through the MOU, Dagupan and Milpitas will continue to establish a framework for ongoing dialogue and joint initiatives, to promote a mutual partnership and exchange of experience between the two cities including economic development and trade, tourism, arts, sports, and education.



City and Community Partnerships Help Improve Selwyn Park

Earlier this year, we shared the City's plans to use \$1,116,000 in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds for various health and safety repairs at nine City parks. Since then, Cerano, John McDermott, O'Toole Elms, Park Metro Central, Park Metro East, Pinewood, Sunnyhills Augustine Memorial, Selwyn and Tom Evatt Parks have had various recreational and safety improvements, as outlined in the Park and Recreation Master Plan Update. We hope many residents have enjoyed the new playground surfaces, equipment, and amenities. These park rejuvenation projects also provided the City an opportunity to forge stronger community partnerships. Together, the City and community identified several items that can be funded within the scope of this park improvement project. The City is grateful for the ARPA program and City Council's support in funding park improvement projects. These enhancements and community partnerships help boost the physical appeal of our City and reinforce the importance of neighborhood engagement.



Accessory Dwelling Unit Resources for Milpitas Residents

With Milpitas' ADU Incentive Program, there is a plethora of resources for residents. Thanks to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and the City Council's allocation to support ADU production, the Milpitas Building Safety and Housing Department will give you a no-fee permit, regardless of whether it is a newly built ADU or legalizing an existing one.

ADU Resources For You

ADU MONDAY PROGRAM

Need to talk to a City of Milpitas ADU expert? Schedule a virtual meeting with members from the Building Safety, Planning, and Land Development Departments: milpitas.info/ADUconsult

SAFE ADU LEGALIZATION PROGRAM

Need to legalize and improve the safety of your existing unpermitted ADU to reduce liability and increase your property's market value? Visit milpitas.info/SafeADU or e-mail SafeADU@milpitas.gov.

MILPITAS ADU TOOLKIT

Thinking of adding an accessory dwelling unit or ADU within your property? Here's the detailed, step-by-step resource: milpitas.info/ADUToolkit

SYMBIUM BUILD MILPITAS

Need help with finding ADU designs that fit your property? Connect with ADU professionals, and get your free report with all the information to get started: <https://sybium.com>

FREE PERMIT

Thanks to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and the City Council's support for ADU production, whether you are building a new ADU or legalizing an existing one, the Milpitas Building Safety and Housing Department will give you a no-fee permit.

